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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF ARIZONA  
IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF MARICOPA

IN RE THE GENERAL ADJUDICATION  
OF ALL RIGHTS TO USE WATER IN  
THE GILA RIVER SYSTEM AND  
SOURCE

W-1 (Salt)  
W-2 (Verde)  
W-3 (Upper Gila)  
W-4 (San Pedro)  
Consolidated

ORDER OF APPOINTMENT AND  
REFERENCE

This matter came before the Court on its own motion upon the retirement of George A. Schade, Jr. as the Special Master. Pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-255 and Ariz. R. Civ. P. 53, the Court has appointed **Susan Ward Harris** as the Special Master in this proceeding. Her employment is to begin on July 20, 2015, and she is eligible to participate in the Arizona State Retirement System. It is appropriate to issue an order of reference specifying the duties being assigned by the Court to the Special Master in this proceeding. Due to the expected duration and complexity of the proceeding, exceptional conditions require the issuance of such an order of reference.

IT IS ORDERED:

1. Powers and Duties. The Special Master shall conduct such hearings and take such testimony as shall be necessary to determine the relative water rights of each claimant

1 in this proceeding (excepting those matters that the Court reserves for itself from time to  
2 time). In completing this undertaking, the Special Master shall (a) supervise discovery  
3 proceedings; (b) provide guidance to the Arizona Department of Water Resources in  
4 providing technical assistance to the Special Master pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-256; (c) report  
5 on all legal and factual matters pursuant to A.R.S. § 45-257 and Rule 53(g), Ariz. R.  
6 Civ. P.; (d) prepare a draft of a proposed decree or decrees; (e) exercise those other powers  
7 conferred upon the Special Master by Title 45, Chapter 1, Article 9 of the Arizona Revised  
8 Statutes and by Rule 53 of the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure; and (f) perform such  
9 additional duties in this proceeding as directed by the Court from time to time.

10       2.     Rules of Procedure and Evidence. In conducting proceedings pursuant to this  
11 Order, the Special Master shall adhere to the Arizona Rules of Civil Procedure, the Arizona  
12 Rules of Evidence, the Rules for Proceedings Before the Special Master, and the Arizona  
13 Code of Judicial Conduct. The Special Master may promulgate other procedural rules and  
14 guidelines to provide fairness and expediency in these proceedings.

15       3.     Meetings with the Parties and Their Attorneys. The Special Master shall  
16 convene meetings of the parties and their attorneys whenever necessary to expedite these  
17 proceedings.

18       4.     Location of Records and Documents. The Special Master shall maintain  
19 under her control all records and documents resulting from the proceedings referred to her  
20 under this Order, utilizing the services of the Clerk of the Superior Court in and for  
21 Maricopa County. The records and documents shall be located in the Office of the Clerk of  
22 the Superior Court or in the Arizona State Archives, whichever is deemed most appropriate  
23 by the Special Master. The Special Master may remove such documents and records, either  
24 personally or through a designee, for prehearing, hearing, or research purposes.

25       5.     Compensation and Expenses. All compensation and expenses related to the  
26 Special Master shall be paid as set forth in A.R.S. § 45-255(B).

